(c) what steps are contemplated by Government to unearth circulation of fake shares in stock exchanges of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c) According to some Stock Exchanges, they have received information regarding fake shares of a few companies. Issue of fake shares is punishable under the law and the police authorities take action on receipt of specific complaints. The main responsibility for filing complaints with the police in respect of circulation of fake shares vests with with the concerned companies.

Income-tax raids on stock brokers

3732. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income tax authorities have conducted raids at the residences and offices of stock market brokers at Delhi, Calcutta and Madras on the 20th June, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of the incriminating documents etc., seized during the searches;

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and other steps Government propose to take against the brokers involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) These searches were conducted in connection with investigations in the Harshad Mehta group. The Income-tax authorities do not have any power of arrest. However, share scrips, bank drafts, cash, incriminating books and documents and floppy diskettes have been seized and further enquiries and investigations in this regard have been taken up.

Bani officials reaction over RBIs sports vision over bank functioning

3733. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Bankers sore over attempts to shied RBI officials" as reported in the Economic Times dated 10th June, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the senior officials of a few Nationalised Banks have criticised RBI for its failure to supervise the functioning of banks;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) what further steps Government propose to take to make RBI effective in supervising functioning of other banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Banks' Association (IBA) have reported that they are not aware of any such reaction from Senior Bankers.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government is considering the establishment of a high powered Supervisory Board consisting of 4 to 5 full time members, with the Governor, Reserve Bank of India as the Chairman. The Board will coordinate the work of supervision of banks, financial institutions and other financial agencies in the country. It will lay down operating guidelines, look after supervision and enforce compliance.

Instructions to banks on Higher Dividends and profits

3734. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Banking Division in his Ministry issued directive to all nationalised banks to ensure higher dividends and higher profits

through a letter dated 6th February, 1992; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) As part of the effort to contain the fiscal deficit and to improve Government receipts, it was decided to impress upon profit making public sector enterprises to declare 50 per cent higher dividends as compared to the previous year. Accordingly, the public sector banks were advised by a letter dated the 6th February, 1992 to take necessary steps in compliance with the Government decision to declare suitably higher dividends for the year ending 31st March, 1992.

Expansion of capital by S.C.I.C.I.

3735. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please state:

(a) whether it is a fact that S.C.I.C.I. is doubling its authorised capital;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that S.C.I.C.I. is diversifying its loan portfolio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. S.C.I.C.I., which is a non government company under the Companies Act, has indicated that it has passed the requisite resolutions of its shareholders for increasing its authorised share capital from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 200 crores to enable the company to make a rights issue of equity shares to its shareholders and thereby augment the rupee resources of the company.

(c) Yes Sir. S.C.I.C.I. has indicated that it has diversified its operations by providing long term finance to enterprises in the sectors of energy, telecommunications, and tourism and travel. These are sectors of the economy involving basic infrastructural development and a growth potential. Further diversification into other areas of industrial and commercial activities is also under consideration.

Losses to banks due to robberies and dacoities by militants

3736. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the loss caused to various banks on account of the robberies and dacoities by militants in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and other States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): As per available information, an amount of Rs. 10.76 crores is involved in the robberies/dacoities which took place in all the public sector banks in various States (including Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab) and Union Territories in the country during the period from 1990 upto June, 1992. The present system of data collection does not generate information regarding the loss specifically due to robberies and dacoities by militants.

राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक का स्थापित किया जाना

3737. **श्री विनोद शर्मा :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने लगभग 197 विद्यमान क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को मिलाकर एक राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक स्थापित करने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस निर्णय के परिणामस्वरूप ग्रामीण लोगों को क्या-क्या लाभ होंगे; और

(ग) प्रारम्भ में उस बैंक की कुल कितनी शाखायें स्थापित किये जाने का निर्णय किया गया है और इस निर्णय को कब कार्यान्वित किया जाना है ?